



ST MONICA'S NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th March

Faith Aspiration Resilience Respect



Year 3 Easter Pageant

Our Year 3 children delivered an exceptional performance of the Easter Story in church this morning. It was truly a performance to remember, with pupils, Father Ged and proud families all enjoying the story as it unfolded.

The pageant was filled with superb readings, dancing, acting and singing. Every child played their part brilliantly. All pupils had a role and worked hard to make the performance so special, in front of over 500 people, too. Well done, Year 3. You were amazing. [Link to video](#)

Father Ged was delighted: "What a memorable Easter Story. Our pupils shone brightly and lit up our church. So much hard work and talent was on show. Well done, everybody."

On behalf of everyone at St Monica's, we wish you a happy and healthy Easter. Your children have been fantastic this term and have given so much to our school. Have a wonderful break. We return on Monday, 13 April.

Key Dates

**Break Up for Easter
Friday 27th March,
3:30pm**

**Return to School
Monday 13th April**

**Y4 Rivers Trip,
23rd April**

**Y5 CHET,
Monday 3rd June**

**Y6 PGL,
Mon 29th June**

**Y1 Zoo Visit,
19th June**

**Y2 Zoo Visit,
June - TBC**

**Summer Fayre, Friday
3rd July**

**Y6 Leavers Assembly,
15th July, 2pm**

**Break Up for Summer
Friday 17th July, 1:30pm**



St Monica's - Attendance Matters

Phase winners		
EYFS	Nursery	96.88%
Year 1 / Year 2	1T	98.16%
Year 3 / Year 4	3G	97.58%
Year 5 / Year 6	5GB	98.65%

We've had a strong term, with 95.44% attendance - above last year, National and Sefton data! A huge well done to all of our families for supporting excellent attendance habits here in St Monica's.



Easter Activities and Raffle

From Easter Egg Hunts and Lenten Walks to an amazing Y1 Easter Parade, the school has had a real sense of Easter joy this week.

Our raffle raised an amazing £700 today. Thank you so much for your continued support. Thanks to events like this, along with the amazing participation in our school lottery, our school funds now stand at over £6,000! Wow.

This means we have secured the first phase of funding for our forest school. Please see the artist's impression here:

We must have the most generous families around!



St Monica's Parish Updates

This Sunday, 29th March, there will be a special Mass at 9:30am, including Little Church. Easter Sunday Mass will take place on 5th April.

On 12th April, there will be a Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall after Mass. All are welcome to enjoy friendly conversation, refreshments, cakes and a raffle.



Headteacher's Hot Chocolate

Each week, pupils who have lived out our values and have demonstrated the “St Monica’s Way” are selected by their class teacher. They are celebrated in assembly and then enjoy a hot chocolate and a chat with Mr Gouldbourne to celebrate their inspirational week.

Mr Gouldbourne	Lara Gomez – for showing determination and joy in all she does. A lovely pupil with a bright future. Issra Majeed – for working hard in her lessons and displaying a happy, positive nature around school. A quiet superstar.
Ms Tohill	Myles Chapman – for playing great tennis whilst motivating others with lots of encouragement!
Miss Byrne	Alice Donnelly – for trying her very best in our phonics lessons. Alice listens attentively and is making fantastic progress learning our Read Write Inc. alphabet picture cards. I am so proud of your effort and enthusiasm. What a star you are!
Miss Andrews	Wyllow Enyia – for brightening our classroom with her positive attitude and always trying her best in writing. Well done, Wyllow!
Miss Horder	Reya Simpson – for working hard to create a detailed story map for The Journey Home. Well done, Reya!
Miss Tew	Ellenor Hendry – for showing a love of learning, a kind spirit and always working hard. A delight to have at St Monica’s.
Miss Hatcher	Paisley – for demonstrating excellent manners and respect for staff, peers and visitors. A happy and hardworking pupil who always shows The St Monica’s Way.
Mrs MacDonald	Clara Spencer– for reading every single night. A reading superstar and a role model for all! Kaiben S-W - for being gracious and polite, and for showing kindness to another child. I’m so proud of you, Kaiben.
Mrs Chorzepa	Skyla Brown – for showing amazing growth in independence. Your writing has improved so much. Your hard work, determination and positive attitude are shining through in your latest piece of writing.
Mrs Reardon	Robyn Eckersall – for learning and performing her lines beautifully for the Easter Pageant. She showed great confidence and dedication. Well done, Robyn!
Miss Gibbons	Florrie Selkirk-Jones – for outstanding dedication to her role in our Easter Pageant. Florrie has been a fantastic assistant director, organising the timings of the readers. A born leader and excellent team member. Well done, Florrie!
Mrs Ware	Tom McGowan – for sharing his love of art with the class. Inspired by Georges Seurat, Tom carried out research at home and kindly contributed to our class display. Thank you, Tom!
Miss Thomas	Jared Onjewu – for excellent geography knowledge and participation in our lesson about lines of longitude and time zones.
Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch	Iris Stuart – for showing kindness and respect to all and being a role model of The St Monica’s Way. Well done, Iris!
Miss McGuckin	Jay-Jay Ponder – for the respect and gratitude he shows towards peers and adults. His manners are impeccable and he truly looks after his friends. A delight to have in 5M. Proud of you!
Miss McGiveron	Archie Motion – for always being respectful and polite, and for giving 100% in everything he does. A delight to teach. Every class should have an Archie!
Mr Lynch	Megan Chamberlain – for working hard in preparation for SATs. Megan is growing in confidence and it is a joy to see.
Miss Quick	Isla Selkirk-Jones – for consistently applying herself and demonstrating an excellent attitude towards English. A delight to teach!
Mrs Hough	Lewis Garcia - for showing resilience and courage and helping others - well done Luis.



Nursery - by Miss Byrne



We have been learning about the events of Holy Week and beginning to understand the meaning of Easter. Through stories, discussions, and group activities, they explored key parts of the Easter story in a way that was engaging and age-appropriate.



To deepen our understanding, the children worked collaboratively to create their own Easter garden. They carefully arranged materials and used small world figures to represent different parts of the story. This hands-on activity encouraged them to reflect on what they had learnt and to retell the story in their own words, developing both their communication skills and confidence.

It has been wonderful to see the children sharing ideas, working together, and bringing the story to life through imaginative play.



Reception - by Miss Andrews and Miss Horder

This week in Reception, we had lots of fun exploring Easter! The children learned about the Easter story and its true meaning, and enjoyed creating their own Easter cards.

We also got busy in the kitchen making Easter nest cakes, where we explored changes as chocolate melted and transformed. The children loved decorating their own Easter baskets, showing great creativity and care.

To finish our exciting week, we took part in a fantastic Easter hunt, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed!





Year 1 - by Miss Hatcher and Miss Tew

This term, we have been learning all about the Easter story in RE, and the children have really enjoyed exploring its meaning and traditions. We began by creating our own Lenten promises, thinking about temptations and how we can make good choices each day.

As part of our learning about Palm Sunday, we re-enacted Jesus' journey into Jerusalem. The children waved the palm leaves they had made and sang "Hosanna!", bringing the story to life in a joyful way.

We also learnt about the Last Supper and why it is important to Christians. We shared bread and 'wine' as Jesus did with his disciples, reflecting on friendship, love and remembrance. The children enjoyed making Easter gardens, thinking about Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We planted seeds to represent new life and hope. To finish, we held a special Easter parade where we shared our learning and sang our Easter songs. It was a lovely way to celebrate together.



Year 2- by Mrs Macdonald, Mrs Chorzepa and Miss Partington

This week, Year 2 have been learning about Palm Sunday and its importance in the Christian calendar. As part of their learning, the children re-enacted the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem, taking on roles to bring the event to life. They celebrated his arrival just as the crowds did, with great enthusiasm and joy. The children also made their own palm leaves, which they proudly waved during the re-enactment.





YEAR 3 WOULD LIKE TO INVITE
YOU TO OUR



SWAP SHOP

BRING OLD BELONGINGS AND
SWAP THEM FOR SOMETHING
NEW-TO-YOU.



WE WILL ACCEPT OLD CLOTHES,
WORLD BOOK DAY COSTUMES
AND UNIFORMS.

LESS WASTE. MORE SHARING.

FRIDAY 1ST MAY @ 3:15PM

REFRESH YOUR WARDROBE THE
SUSTAINABLE WAY!

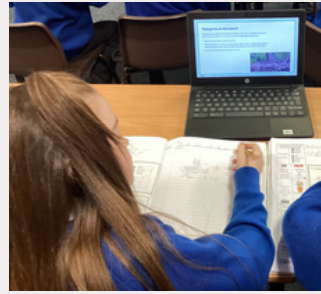




Year 3 - by Mrs Reardon and Miss Gibbons

Year 3 are currently studying plants as part of their science topic. This week, we explored the question: Do all plants need the same things to thrive and grow? We investigated a variety of plants from different climates and discussed how they have adapted over millions of years to survive in their specific environments.

As part of our learning, we researched different plants and created fact files to explain their unique adaptations. For example, did you know that a cactus has a thick, waxy outer layer that helps reduce water loss and reflect heat, allowing it to survive in hot desert climates?

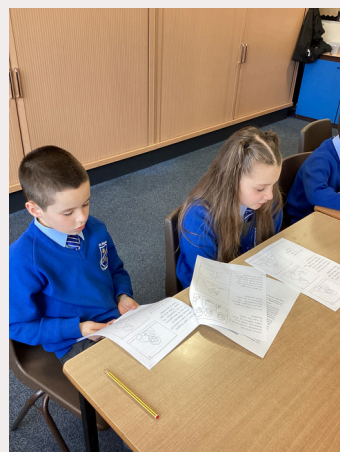
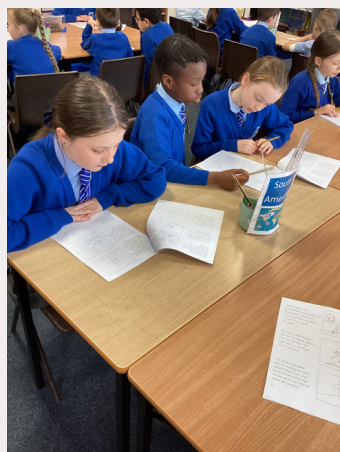
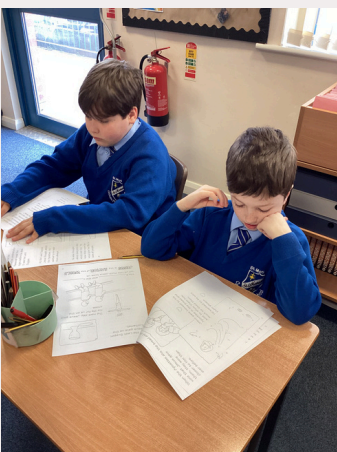


Did you know that scientists estimate that there are about 391,000 known different species of plants?



Year 4 - by Mrs Ware and Miss Thomas

Year 4 had a wonderful start to their First Holy Communion preparation as they met with the catechists for their first session. During this special time, the children explored the story of Passover and began to understand its importance in the context of the Last Supper. They discussed how Jesus shared this meal with his disciples and how it connects to the celebration of the Eucharist today. The session also helped the children reflect on how we remember Jesus during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, deepening their understanding of this important sacrament. The children engaged thoughtfully and showed great enthusiasm as they began this meaningful journey.





Year 5- by Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch and Miss McGuckin



Year 5 have been working incredibly hard this week in their writing lessons, and we are so proud of their efforts. The children have been writing their own biographies about astronaut Chris Hadfield, showing great creativity, research skills and attention to detail.

They explored his early life, including how his interest in space began as a young boy, before moving on to his impressive achievements as an astronaut. The class were especially excited to write about his time aboard the International Space Station.

Finally, they reflected on his later life and how he continues to inspire people around the world. The children organised their writing clearly, using paragraphs, headings and interesting facts to engage their readers.



Year 6- by Miss McGiveron and Mr Lynch

Year 6 have made a great start to their new Geography topic on Human and Physical Geography. This week, the children explored different types of settlements, including hamlets, villages, towns and cities, and discussed the key features of each.

They also learned about physical features such as rivers and green spaces, and how these shape where people live.

Using Digimaps, the class explored our local area of Bootle, identifying key features and applying their map skills. Well done, Year 6, for a fantastic week of learning! Have a great Easter to all of our families.





LET'S GET

Ready for School!

Do you have a child between 2-5 years old?

Join us for a fun, free, drop in event to find out how you can help your child to get ready for school!



Friday 10th April 2026

10am – 2pm

The Hive, Bootle Strand

Join us for a fun, free, drop in event to find out how you can help your child to get ready for school!

What you can expect on the day:

Expert advice on your child's transition into school

Story Sessions

Opportunity to meet local services

Arts & Crafts

Soft Play



Sefton Council



Sefton Community Learning Service



SAFEGUARDING TEAM

WE ARE HERE TO KEEP YOU SAFE AND HAPPY - PLEASE SEE ANY OF US IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS - AT ANY TIME.



MR J. GOULDBOURNE
DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING
LEAD



MRS C. PRICE
DEPUTY
SAFEGUARDING
LEAD



MRS L. FATE
SENDCO
SAFEGUARDING



MRS S. EVANS
EARLY YEARS
SAFEGUARDING



MR S. MURPHY
SAFEGUARDING
GOVERNOR



MRS S. PATTISON
ATTENDANCE
SAFEGUARDING



MRS R. HOUGH
WELLBEING
SAFEGUARDING



MISS J. TOHILL
LOOKED AFTER
CHILDREN
SAFEGUARDING

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